## **Notice of Exemption**

**To:** Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Rm. 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Planning Branch Native Plant Program P.O. Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Santa Catalina Island Mountain Mahogany Propagation and Reintroduction Project (Project)

**Project Location:** Vegetative tissue collection for the Santa Catalina Island Mountain Mahogany Propagation and Restoration Project (Project) will take place in Los Angeles County in Wild Boar Gully on Santa Catalina Island (33.32525, -118.4404). The collection location is identified in Figure 1 and Figure 2 of Attachment 1 (Research Proposal dated May 23, 2022). Vegetative tissue will be propagated for protocol development purposes and temporarily stored at Tree of Life Nursery located at 33201 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 (33.52872, -117.55361) in Orange County. Following the development of the micropropagation protocol, explants will be returned to The Catalina Island Conservancy's Ackerman Native Plant Nursery on Santa Catalina Island located at 200 Middle Ranch Road, Avalon, CA (33.35568, -118.43749).

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a permit to Lauren Dennhardt [Permit No. 2081(a)-22-005-RP] pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 2081(a) for a project to collect non-hybrid vegetative plant tissue from the last seven remaining Santa Catalina Island Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus traskiae*) plants to develop a micropropagation protocol, generate propagules to be used in Santa Catalina Island restoration efforts, and to provide material for germplasm storage and ex situ living collection purposes.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Lauren Dennhardt, Plant Conservation Manager, Catalina Island Conservancy

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| Exempt Status:   |  |
| ☐ Ministerial;   |  |
| ☐ Declared Emergency;  |  |
| ☐ Emergency Project;   |  |
|  | nber: Sections 15306 and 15307, Classes 6 and 7.   |
| library that will assist in restoration efforts on Santa Cata  | iae) by developing a micropropagation protocol and a clonal<br>llina Island and provide material for ex situ germplasm<br>a Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Project includes |
| Lead Agency Contact Person: Joanne Heraty  | Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 597-4574   |
| Signature:  DocuSigned by:  Signature:  Sapanature:  Sapa | Date: 9/15/2022  |
| ☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date R   | Received for filing at OPR:  |